

Strategy on a page

Vision: To build a system of protected and conserved areas that enables South Australia’s biodiversity to thrive and protects places of special value.

Pupose: To drive the strategic expansion and enhancement of South Australia’s protected and conserved areas.

Guiding principles:

- Target areas that protect biodiversity and conservation values
- Increase comprehensiveness, adequacy, and representativeness
- Enable species and ecosystems to persist, adapt and thrive in a rapidly changing climate
- Improve ecological integrity, connectivity and resilience
- Safeguard places that are important to people
- Include land for restoration that can support biodiversity at risk of extinction

Goals:

1 Build a comprehensive, adequate and representative protected area system that safeguards and enhances biodiversity	2 Develop a protected area system that enables biodiversity to persist, adapt and thrive despite climate change	3 Protect places that are important to people	4 Develop a robust protected and conserved area system that leverages diverse tenure arrangements
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Strategic priorities:

Increase protection of underrepresented IBRA bioregions and subregions	Increase protection of land with priority conservation and wilderness values	Increase protection of land that enhances climate resilience	Increase protection of biodiversity at risk to the impacts of climate change	Protect areas, objects and landscape features that are significant to First Nations people	Protect places with significant heritage and geological values	Protect places with significant recreational and landscape values	Grow the private land contribution to our protected and conserved areas	Grow the contribution of land outside of formal designation to our conserved area network
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Enabling actions:

- **Develop and implement an investment framework** to guide how government works with conservation partners to fund the expansion and enhancement of the protected and conserved area system.
- **Complete an audit of Crown land** identified for inclusion in the protected and conserved area system, and identify priorities for the addition of these areas based on the values outlined in this strategy.
- Following the prioritisation of Crown land, **provide annual updates on progress** to convert lands to the protected and conserved area system.
- **Convene a biennial forum** with private land conservation partners and the philanthropy sector to discuss priorities and coordinate action.
- **Update spatial prioritisation** using the ‘outcomes assessment’ and ‘wilderness assessment’ to support data-driven acquisitions, identify priority restoration opportunities, and support the adaptation of key ecosystems to climate change.
- **Develop and implement a long-term communications strategy** to showcase the value of protected areas and better understand community aspirations for the protected and conserved area system.
- **Seek to better understand First Nations social, economic, and cultural aspirations for Country**, and work with communities to support capacity and identify locations of cultural significance that require protection.
- **Develop options for an expanded suite of private land covenants** for improving conservation outcomes.
- Work with the Australian Government to **implement trials** that test tools, frameworks, and policy settings in support of **Conserved Areas** in South Australia.